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**Inquiry (I-Chart) Chart (Efferent)**

An inquiry chart (I-Chart), developed by Hoffman (1992), serves to cultivate critical thinking and reading about a given topic. Learners explore what they know about a subject matter and then conduct research from multiple sources to learn more. Through the implementation of an I-Chart, investigators, both students and teachers, are able to evaluate the information they locate as valid or flawed.

I-Chart Example

Based on the setting, Appalachia, of *Belle Prater’s Boy* write what you already know about this area in the first row. In the following rows, list sources you used to find new information and record what you learned under each question.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Appalachia | Geographic Location | Cultural Patterns | Language Patterns |
| What knowledge do I have about this area? | Spans the Appalachian Mountains | Strong faith in a higher power | Speakers use double negatives |
| <http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2005/05/0502_050502_twang.html> | Southern portion of USA | Sense of pride | Language is stigmatized |
| <http://www.arc.gov/index.do?nodeId=1886> | KY, TN, VA, WV, NC | Neighborliness | Deep-voiced native |
| <http://www.arc.gov/index.do?nodeId=603> | Eastern Central PA | Strong sense of community | It’s all about the people |

**Sample Strategies and Methodologies** (based on White’s (1998) *Belle Prater’s Boy*)

**Pre-reading Activities**

***Anticipation Guide***

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Agree Disagree | For each statement below, place a √ under the appropriate column. | Explanation Concerning Response |
|  | 1. Dealing with life’s problems is best addressed by avoiding them. |  |
|  | 2. Fitting in with the group is very important. |  |
|  | 3. What you see on the surface, is usually all there is. |  |

***Preview-Predict-Confirm Chart***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Word Predictions  (based on the cover, what words will  appear in the book?) | Appeared in Text?  (please √ appropriate response)  *Yes No* |
| Mama |  |
| Belle Prater |  |
| Boy |  |
| Friends |  |